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R 191535Z FEB 72  
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6195  
INFO RULPALJ/USCINCSO  
RUFJC/AMEMBASSY PARIS 99  
RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 59  
BT  
UNCLAS LA PAZ 0955

SUBJECT: ALTMANN CASE.

2. FEBRUARY 19 PRESENCIA CARRIED AN INTERVIEW WHICH ALTMANN GAVE TO EFE AND PUEBLO OF MADRID CORRESPONDENTS ON FEBRUARY 18. ALTMANN WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT HE IS PROUD OF BEING A NATURALIZED BOLIVIAN CITIZEN AND THAT HE WANTS TO REMAIN IN BOLIVIA AND "WORK AS BEFORE." HE REPORTEDLY STATED THAT THE ACCUSATION THAT HE IS BARBIE WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY INTRIGUES INVOLVING CIA TRANSMARITIMA BOLIVIANA, OF WHICH HE IS PRESIDENT. HE ALSO OBSERVED THAT HE KNOWS WHO HAD MADE THE ACCUSATIONS. NON ON HIS WARTIME EXPERIENCES HE STATED THAT HE HAD "CARRIED OUT HIS DUTIES AS ANY SOLDIER SHOULD." THE

**SECRET**

FOR COORDINATION WITH

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2000 2006

CASE SECRETARIAT DISSEMINATION		CLASSIFIED MESSAGE	TOTAL COPIES	ROUTING AND/OR INITIALS-SEEN BY	
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ACTION UNIT		# 59839 2 of 2			
ACTION NO.		FILE, VR			

EFE ARTICLE COMMENTED THAT ALTMANN APPEARED "CALM AND UNEMOTIONAL."

3. A MUNICH AFP DATED LINED STORY CARRIED IN EL DIARIO REPORTED THAT "NAZI HUNTER" BEATE KLARSFELD WILL ARRIVE IN LA PAZ ON FEBRUARY 20. SHE REPORTEDLY WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A MRS HALAUNBRENNER, WHO IS SAID TO CLAIM THAT BARBIE EXECUTED HER HUSBAND AND SENT HER THREE CHILDREN TO THE AUSCHWITZ GAS CHAMBERS IN 1943.

4. COMMENT: ALTMANN IS APPARENTLY RECEIVING POLICE PROTECTION IN A PRIVATE HOUSE IN THIS CITY. HIS PROPENSITY TO GIVE PRESS INTERVIEWS AND HAVE HIS PICTURE PUBLISHED IN THE PRESS MAY INDICATE THAT HE FEELS RELATIVELY SECURE AT THIS TIME. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S POSITION ON THE EXTRADITION REQUEST MAY INDICATE A DESIRE OF THE GOB TO DELAY HAVING TO MAKE A DECISION ON THE CASE. SIRACUSA

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